

HOUSE No. 2708

By Mr. Kennedy of Brockton, petition of Thomas P. Kennedy
relative to the definition of “surgery”. Public Health.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Five.

AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE DEFINITION OF SURGERY.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General
Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:*

1 Section 5I of chapter 112 of the General Laws, as appearing in
2 the 2000 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting at the
3 end thereof the following:—

4 For the purposes of this chapter “surgery” shall be defined as a
5 diagnostic, palliative or therapeutic treatment of conditions or dis-
6 ease processes by using instruments including lasers, ionizing
7 radiation, scalpels, probes and needles in which human tissue is
8 cut, burned, vaporized, frozen, sutured, probed, manipulated by
9 closed reduction for major dislocations and fractures, or otherwise
10 altered by any mechanical, thermal or chemical means. This defi-
11 nition is not intended to include ministrations that are part of rou-
12 tine bodily hygiene such as trimming of hair or nails, or infringe
13 on the scope of practice of those already licensed to perform sim-
14 ilar limited procedures such as electrolysis, tattooing, and
15 piercing.